

REMARKS

An RCE is being filed concurrently in order to permit further prosecution in view of the Office Action of October 29, 2002 and the Advisory Action of February 19, 2003.

At the middle of page 2, the Advisory Action states: "Nowhere in the claim language is [it] recited 'directly' or 'without the aid of a host computer'...". However, claim 1 has been amended to recite "transmitting and receiving information data including a booking number **without the aid of said local computer** via the Internet between said personal computer and a selected reservation system" (emphasis supplied). Coupled with this, claim 1 recites "generating, in said personal computer, booking data by compiling...and sending the generated booking data to said local computer via said network."

While the Hunt et al reference (which will hereafter be called simply "Hunt") discloses a frame relay access device 18 (see Hunt's Figure 1), an ordinarily skilled person would likely conclude that it is merely a web server having the capability of connecting to the Internet using the TCP/IP protocol (see column 3 of the reference, lines 51-54). Hunt's computer 14 performs transactions or handles reservation data for the client computer 12. Hunt's computer 14, therefore, must intervene between his client computer and his reservation system in order to perform a reservation, since Hunt's reservation system uses "hard to understand codes" (column 1 of the reference, lines 34-38).

Accordingly, even if an ordinarily skilled person sought to improve Hunt's system in some way, he would not consider a modification in which Hunt's client computer 12 interacts with Hunt's reservation system **without the aid of the host computer**, since such a modification would destroy Hunt's invention or render it unsatisfactory for its intended purpose. Clearly an ordinarily skilled person who wanted to improve some aspect of a prior art system would have no incentive to destroy it or undermine its basic purpose.

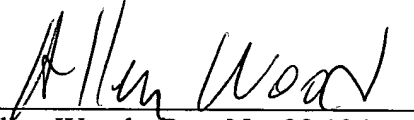
The present application discloses a system in which a personal computer (client computer) 30 transmits and receives information data, including a booking number, without the aid of a local computer 23, or an application program interface. The PC 30 compiles the information data received from a selected reservation system to generate booking data. In other words, the PC 30 interacts **directly** with the reservations system to exchange data regarding a reservation. The PC 30 also interacts with the local computer in order to

provide the local computer with the resultant booking data generated in the personal computer. Such an arrangement is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Hunt reference, and the Garback reference does not make up the deficiency.

Independent claim 2 now recites "transmitting and receiving means for transmitting and receiving information data including a booking number **without the aid of said local computer** via the Internet between said personal computer and the selected reservation system." Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is patentable over the references for reasons along the lines discussed above with respect to claim 1.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENT – CLAIM CHANGES

This attachment includes claims that are being rewritten in the present Amendment, with brackets being used to identify deletions from the previous version of the rewritten claims and with underlining being used to identify additions to the previous version.

1. (Twice Amended) A booking and issuing method of a ticket booking and issuing system including a reservation system for accepting ticket booking requests via a communication line, a local computer being interconnected to said reservation system via said communication line to issue the tickets booked in said reservation system, and a personal computer being interconnected to said local computer via a network and having an Internet connection function, comprising the steps of:

addressing a ticket booking commencement request to said local computer from said personal computer;

BI sending information relating to said reservation system and address information of said reservation system from said local computer to said personal computer via said network in accordance with said ticket booking commencement request;

storing, in said personal computer, the information sent from said local computer into a memory for displaying said information relating to said reservation system on a screen for selection;

reading out, in said personal computer, the address of the reservation system that is selected on said screen for selection from said memory;

connecting said personal computer to the selected reservation system via the Internet;

transmitting and receiving information data including a booking number without the aid of said local computer via the Internet between said personal computer and [said] the selected reservation system;

~~generating~~, in said personal computer, booking data by compiling predetermined data [within] included in the information data transmitted and received in said transmitting and receiving step into a predetermined form and sending the generated booking data to said local computer via said network;

transmitting, from said local computer, data including said booking number within said booking data to [said] the selected reservation system via said communication line; and

issuing, by said local computer, the ticket booked in said reservation system.

2. (Twice Amended) A ticket booking and issuing system including a reservation system for accepting ticket booking requests via a communication line, a local computer being interconnected to said reservation system via said communication line to issue the tickets booked in said reservation system, and a personal computer being interconnected to said local computer via a network and having an Internet connection function, comprising:

addressing means for addressing a ticket booking commencement request to said local computer from said personal computer;

sending means for sending information relating to said reservation system and address information of said reservation system from said local computer to said personal computer via said network in accordance with said ticket booking commencement request;

storing means for storing, in said personal computer, the information sent from said local computer into a memory for displaying said information relating to said reservation system on a screen for selection;

reading means for reading out, in said personal computer, the address of the reservation system that is selected on said screen for selection from said memory for connecting said personal computer to the selected reservation system via the Internet;

transmitting and receiving means for transmitting and receiving information data including a booking number without the aid of said local computer via the Internet between said personal computer and [said] the selected reservation system;

generating means for generating, in said personal computer, booking data by compiling predetermined data within the information data transmitted and received in said transmitting and receiving [step] means into a predetermined form and sending the generated booking data to said local computer via said network;

transmitting means for transmitting, from said local computer, data including said booking number within said booking data to [said] the selected reservation system via said communication line; and

issuing means for issuing the ticket booked in said reservation system, said issuing means being provided in said local computer.

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